

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00
ARA-06 CU-02 /102 W
-----031029Z 106670 /15

P R 030847Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9327
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 DAKAR 3041

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, EAID, XY, FR, CG, SG
SUBJECT: FURTHER COMMENT ON DAKAR FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT
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REF: A) DAKAR 2765, B) DAKAR 2810, C) DAKAR 2811, D) DAKAR 2812,
E) DAKAR 2814

1. SUMMARY: SENEGALESE ARE EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH SUMMIT.
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE HAD BEEN KEY ECONOMIC CONCERN TO SENEGALESE,
WHO OBTAINED SUMMIT'S ENDORSEMENT OF STEPS TO ASSURE QUALITY OF

FRENCH EXPERTS, AND HELPED OBTAIN PLEDGE FROM PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING TO ARREST DIMINUTION OF FRENCH PERSONNEL. UNDER SYSTEM OF "GLOBALIZATION" ENDORSED BY SUMMIT, RECIPIENT STATES WILL REIMBURSE FRANCE FOR COST OF ADDITIONAL EXPERTS ABOVE FRENCH CEILING. THERE IS ALSO SATISFACTION WITH SOLIDARITY DISPLAYED ON POLITICAL QUESTIONS, AND WITH PROSPECTS FOR JOINT ACTION. IVOIRIAN PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY CALLED FOR "UNITED FRONT" OF "SERIOUS" AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO BLOCK AGGRESSION AND SUBVERSION, WHILE NIGERIAN PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE SPOKE OF PACT ON NON-RECOURSE TO FORCE AMONG WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (CEAO) MEMBERS. SENEGALESE PRESIDENT SENGHOR SAW SUMMIT AS REGROUPING EFFORT BY MODERATES IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET-CUBAN MEDDLING. HE INDICATES NEXT STEP WILL BE JUNE 9-10 ABIDJAN MEETING TO CONSIDER SENEGALESE PROPOSAL FOR CEAO DEFENSE PACT. IN PRIVATE REMARKS ON SUMMIT, OAU PRESIDENT RAMGOOLAM EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA UNDER SOVIET-CUBAN AUSPICES. ONLY SKEPTICS AT SUMMIT WERE BENIN, WHICH REMAINED SILENT DURING POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS, AND GUINEA-BISSAU, WHICH SUPPORTED ANGOLA ON SHABA INVASION. DESPITE SATISFACTION WITH SUMMIT, SENEGALESE ARE CONCERNED WITH IMPLICATIONS OF INCREASING AFRICAN POLARIZATION; FOREIGN MINISTER SECK TOLD AMBASSADOR SENEGAL DID NOT WISH TO PROTECT ITSELF SOLELY THROUGH FRANCOPHONE INSTRUMENTS, AND HOPEDUS WOULD NOT ABDICATE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP TO SOVIETS. END SUMMARY.

2. SENEGALESE ARE COMMENTING FAVORABLY ON RESULTS OF FRANCO-AFRICAN CONFERENCE. IN APRIL 26 CABINET MEETING, SENGHOR TOOK SATISFACTION IN SUCCESS OF SUMMIT, WHICH HAD BEEN "ESSENTIALLY DEVOTED TO ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION." HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN POSITIVE RESULTS FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND FOR TECHNICAL CONFIDENTIAL

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ASSISTANCE, "WHERE A GLOBAL ACCORD WAS OBTAINED."

3. FUTURE OF FRENCH TECHNICAL AID WAS IN FOREFRONT OF ECONOMIC ISSUES OF CONCERN TO SENEGALESE. NOTING NEED TO "SENEGALIZE" PUBLIC FUNCTIONS IN APRIL 4 ADDRESS, SENGHOR HAD REMARKED THAT "THE DEVELOPED STATES ARE PRODDING US FIRMLY IN THAT DIRECTION, WANTING TO RID THEMSELVES OF THE BURDEN OF AID." IN INTERVIEW ON EVE OF SUMMIT (REF A), GISCARD WAS QUESTIONED ON SENGHOR STATEMENT THAT LEVEL OF FRENCH COOPERANTS WORKING IN EDUCATION SECTOR WAS SOMETIMES INSUFFICIENT. NOTING THAT THERE WERE OVER 800 TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS IN EDUCATION FIELD IN SENEGAL, FRENCH PRESIDENT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT A FEW LACKED COMPETENCE AND "DESIRABLE PROFESSIONAL CONSCIENCE." PLANS DESCRIBED IN COMMUNIQUE (REF B) TO IMPROVE CAREER SYSTEM FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS REFLECTS PROPOSAL URGED BY SENGHOR AS PARTIAL MEASURE TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF QUALIFIED EXPERTS.

4. REDUCTION IN FRENCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS WAS ONLY REMOTELY CONTENTIOUS ISSUE TO APPEAR IN SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE, WHICH NOTED

THAT AFRICANS HAD EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN AND GISCARD HAD PROMISED THAT DIMINUTION WOULD NOT CONTINUE. COMMUNIQUE ENDORSED "GLOBALIZATION" AS SOLUTION. IN FRANCO-SENEGALESE BILATERAL TALKS AFTER SUMMIT, FRENCH MINISTER OF COOPERATION ROBERT GALLEY ASSURED THAT GLOBALIZATION WOULD PERMIT FRANCO-SENEGALESE COOPERATION TO "LIBERATE ITSELF FROM TUTELAGE." AS EXPLAINED TO US BY FRENCH EMBOFFS, GLOBALIZATION IS SYSTEM WHEREBY FRANCE SETS CEILING ON AMOUNT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR WHICH IT IS PREPARED TO PAY, AND RECIPIENT COUNTRY UNDERTAKES TO DEFRAY COST OF ADDITIONAL EXPERTS WHICH IT BELIEVES IT NECESSARY TO RECRUIT BEYOND THAT LEVEL. AT OPENING OF BILATERAL TALKS, SENEGALESE MINISTER OF COOPERATION OUSMANE SECK REMARKED THAT "HEAVY CLIMATE OF UNCERTAINTY" HAD RECENTLY EXISTED ON QUESTION OF FRENCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, BUT VOICED SATISFACTION THAT ACCEPTABLE FORMULA HAD BEEN WORKED OUT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 DAKAR 3041

5. RESPONSE TO SENEGALESE CONCERN OVER TREATMENT OF ITS STUDENTS IN FRANCE WAS ALSO INDICATED IN GALLEY STATEMENT THAT FRENCH HOPED TO MINIMIZE SUCH "TRAUMAS" BY CONCENTRATING
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INSTEAD ON ASSISTING UNIVERSITY OF DAKAR WHICH HE CALLED "MOST PRESTIGIOUS" IN BLACK AFRICA.

6. DESPITE PUBLIC EFFORTS BY SENEGALESE AND FRENCH EMBASSY TO STRESS SUMMIT'S CONCENTRATION ON ECONOMICS, THERE IS EVIDENT SATISFACTION ON BOTH SIDES WITH MEETING'S DISPLAY OF POLITICAL SOLIDARITY. POLITICAL MATTERS WERE DEALT WITH ONLY UNDER "QUESTIONS DIVERSES," WITH ZAIRE SITUATION RAISED BY FOREIGN MINISTER KARL-I-BOND, BUT QUESTION OF SECURITY CONSTITUTED COMMON PREOCCUPATION OF ALL PUBLIC REMARKS. THERE WAS EVIDENCE OF WIDELY SHARED IMPULSE TOWARD SOME FORM OF COMMON ACTION, WITH BOTH SENGHOR (REF E) AND PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE OF NIGER ALLUDING PUBLICLY TO POSSIBILITY OF CEAQ SECURITY COOPERATION, THOUGH KOUNTCHE INSISTED THAT WHAT WAS ENVISAGED WAS NOT DEFENSE ACCORD BUT "PACT OF NON-AGGRESSION AND NON-RECOURSE TO FORCE." PRESIDENT MANCHAM OF SEYCHELLES JOINED OTHERS IN AGREEING, AT PRESS CONFERENCE, THAT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS THREATENED SECURITY OF ALL AFRICA.

7. SPEAKING AT SUMMIT OF CLOUDS ON "POLITICAL HORIZON" CAUSED BY "EXTERNAL INTERVENTIONS" IN AFRICA, HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY SAID "THE FOYERS OF TROUBLES, THE CAUSES OF TENSION HAVE MULTIPLIED SERIOUSLY IN RECENT MONTHS. TO RESPOND TO THIS SITUATION, HE CALLED FOR "SOLIDARITY" WHICH WAS NOT VERBAL AND STERILE BUT "LIVING REALITY." IVOIRIAN PRESIDENT CONCLUDED: "THE TIME HAS NOW COME FOR THE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE FAITH IN THE FUTURE OF ONE FREE AND TRULY INDEPENDENT AFRICA, THE SERIOUS COUNTRIES, THE COUNTRIES WHICH ANIMATE AND INSPIRE THEIR IDEAL OF LIBERTY, TO CONSTITUTE A UNITED FRONT TO BLOCK THE ROUTE TO VIOLENCE, AGGRESSION AND SUBVERSION, SO THAT OUR DEAR AFRICA CAN CONTINUE ITS PEACEFUL PROGRESS ON THE ROAD OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT TO WHICH IT ARDENTLY ASPIRES."

8. IN APRIL 30 CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR, SENGHOR DESCRIBED SUMMIT'S CENTRAL CONCERN AS REGROUPING OF MODERATE AFRICAN STATES IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET-CUBAN MEDDLING. HE SAID GISCARD HAD DISPLAYED GREAT COURAGE. NEXT MOVE OF MODERATES WOULD BE JUNE
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9-10 CEAO MEETING IN ABIDJAN TO EXAMINE SENEGALESE PROPOSAL FOR DEFENSE PACT, SENGHOR INDICATED. HE SAID TOGO WAS ALSO PROSPECTIVE PACT MEMBER.

9. DURING POLITICAL EXCHANGES, ACCORDING TO FOREIGN MINISTRY CABINET DIRECTOR YOUSSEPH SYLLA, BENIN DELEGATION WAS TOTALLY SILENT. LUSOPHONES, HE SAID, WERE IN AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS, BUT DIFFERENCES APPEARED ON POLITICAL ISSUES. SENGHOR TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT GUINEA-BISSAU REPRESENTATIVE HAD SUPPORTED ANGOLAN CLAIM OF NON-INVOLVEMENT IN SHABA INVASION (THOUGH CAPE VERDE REFUSED TO SUPPORT THAT POSITION).

10. SENEGALESE ARE NOT OBLIVIOUS TO PROFOUND IMPLICATIONS OF INCREASING DRAWING TOGETHER OF MODERATES. SYLLA ARGUED IN APRIL 29 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR THAT ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY HAD BECOME TOALLY INEFFECTIVE IN DEALING WITH POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND HAD IN FACT BECOME INSTRUMENT OF DISUNITY DUE TO CONFRONTATION WHICH DEVELOPED AT EACH MEEING. SENEGALESE FOREIGN MINISTER ASSANE SECK ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN TO AMBASSADOR ON APRIL 29 (SEPTTEL) THAT AFRICA BECOMING POLARIZED INTO BLOCS, WITH MODERATES BANDING TOGETHER TO PROTECT THEMSELVES. SENEGAL WOULD TAKE STEPS TO DO SO THROUGH FRANCOPHONE INSTRUMENTS, BUT DID NOT WISH TO RELY ON THEM EXCLUSIVELY. HE HOPED US WOULD NOT ABDICATE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP ROLE TO SOVIETS.

11. RELATED SENTIMENT WAS EXPRESSED TO AMERICAN ACQUAINTANCE IN DAKAR BY OAU PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM OF MAURITIUS. REFLECTING ON SUMMIT DISCUSSIONS AND CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS ON CONTINENT, RAMGOOLAM REMARKED THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO SEE SOVIETS AND CUBANS RECEIVE CREDIT FOR LIBERATING SOUTHERN AFRICA. (ON ECONOMIC SIDE, HE CONSIDERED SUMMIT AS HAVING BEEN USEFUL IN ELICITING FRENCH PLEDGES OF INCREASED ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA.)
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Message Attributes

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